

From: Marvin Snyder
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/17/01 8:39pm
Subject: Microsoft issues

Please, please, please stop trying to "protect" us from Microsoft. If they were a monopoly, the quantity and/or quality of their product would have gone down, or the price would have gone up, or both. Instead, we now get more computing capability by a huge factor, at a price that has actually gone down, than we ever could get before. Innovation proceeds apace in economies that leave innovators alone. It is squelched in economies that control, regulate, and "protect." We cannot afford to have you people "protecting" us any more. It's just simply too counterproductive. Government is an extraordinarily poor allocator of resources, whether they be capital, talent, entrepreneurship, or jobs. Please don't try to outthink, out-allocate, or outsmart the free marketplace of ideas. It's never been done successfully, and there's really no reason to try now. Could you just figure out a way to quietly leave us all alone? I know it flies in the face of what you're trained to do, but please try. We need you to be on our side for a while, and just let nature takes its course. We'll be fine. Honestly.